

THE GIDEONS

Gideons from all parts of Indiana met at Indianapolis in state convention. The Gideons is an organization of Christian commercial travelers with about 3,500 members in the United States. One of the purposes of the organization is to place Bibles in hotel rooms, and over 50,000 have been placed during the past two years, according to the report of the secretary, W. B. Boyd.



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Democratic Newspapers on Plutocratic Organization

"DOWN WITH BRYANISM"

However, there is one phase of the presidential question that has already started a heated discussion. It was put in motion by those independent democratic journals like the New York World, which devote three years to the discussion of the policies of the democratic party and then on the fourth year support the republican nominee. These papers are now insisting that Bryan and "Bryanism" be eliminated from the democratic program, and promising that the earth and all its fullness shall be ours if we but forsake the gallant standard bearer of Nebraska—the one man above all others who for the past fifteen years has made the democratic party a wholesome and powerful political force in this country and an organization worthy of existence. To eliminate "Bryanism" from the democratic party is to leave nothing. It would be like presenting the play of Hamlet without Hamlet. In 1904 the plutocratic press succeeded in a similar attempt and the result was that the party polled a million and a quarter less votes than it had in 1896 and in 1900, when Bryan was in the saddle. — Independence (Kansas) Times.

MOULDER OF TWENTIETH CENTURY THOUGHT

What does it matter to Mr. Bryan if his friends have not been able to elect him to any office in these states of America?

His influence grows, nevertheless, and today it is the strongest and healthiest influence in American life.

Time will remove the injustices—the small prejudices—the misunderstandings—and time will brighten, not dim, his honor.

The impression he has made on the pages of history is noble and lasting.

He has absolutely forced the republican party, through the intellectual influence he has with the people, to adopt more and more democratic principles, and he has compelled them to lead a better and a somewhat less unholy life. But the more they are compelled to yield to the better civic ideals which he inspires, the more they hate him.

Does that worry him? No. Mr. Bryan's life's endeavors lie clear and straight ahead unto the end; and shall reflect unto the end, the pure conscience and transcendent intellectuality of the man.

American public life in this generation of American history has been enriched and ennobled by the influence of this splendid figure.

The history of our times will be brighter and nobler because of the life and living of this righteous man, whose wonderful power and leadership lies not in the coercive force of wealth, but in the lofty individuality and personal charms which come from unassailable integrity, and transcendent moral and mental endowments.

W. J. Bryan has been the leading instrument in bringing about the nomination of senators by direct primaries in many states. The income tax laws and the regulation of railroads and many other reform measures, were championed by him, and then adopted by the republican party.—Kennedy (Minn.) Journal.

A MISSOURI OPINION

Democrats must not lose their heads over their recent successes, and imagine that they can with any reasonable hope for lasting success,

compromise with principles to gain a temporary victory. We are honest in the statement, and there are hundreds of thousands of democrats who feel the same—we would rather lose fighting it honestly along the lines of the 1908 platform than to win with a democrat, in name only, running on a republicanized platform.

Those are our sentiments in a nutshell, and if anybody wants to know, we will frankly state that we still think that William J. Bryan is not only the biggest combination of intellect, morality and statesmanship in the world today, but the greatest democrat since the time of Thomas Jefferson, and the man best able to cope successfully with the political problems of the day.

Some of us may, in the exuberance and overjoyousness of recent results, imagine that the party can well dispense with the services of Mr. Bryan, but we will be glad to go back to him for counsel long before the campaign of 1912 has begun. It is the part of wisdom for democrats to sit quietly in the boat, and if they steer by the compass of the Denver platform, they will avoid the shoals and guide the old bark into a safe and successful harbor.—Harrisonville (Mo.) Democrat.

DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITIES

A great deal of speculative talking and writing is now current regarding the possible action of the next national democratic convention in selecting a presidential nominee. This talk in most instances elimi-

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